TASMANIA DEPARTMENT OF MINES
UNPUBLISHED REPORT 1969/31

REPORT ON A VISIT TO FURNEAUX ISLANDS 21 MAY 1969 TO 2 JUNE 1969

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Objects

1. Gain familiarity with local geology and conditions.
2. Locate known tin fields, recognise sites of previous exploratory drilling, collect tin samples where possible.
3. Inspect past tin workings and observe conditions and problems encountered in the district.
4. Observe techniques and progress of exploratory drilling programme conducted by T. D. Hughes for the licence holders.
5. Collect samples of "Granites" to establish range of composition and possibility of correlation with "granites" currently under investigation in N.E. Tasmania.

Sampling

Alluvial tin samples were collected from six different sites and some twenty "granite" samples.

Conclusions

Alluvial tin deposits.

Flinders Island is readily accessible; is relatively well explored, and several systematic attempts have been made to establish the alluvial tin potential. Even so the flats in Leventhorpe Creek downstream of past workings warrant consideration as a drilling target.

Geological maps available are compilations of old work and local inaccuracies are readily apparent.

Cape Barren Island, although the greater tin producer in the past, has been neglected recently due to problems of access, isolation and lack of amenities. Its potential is less well known as in this low rainfall region prospecting and working has been confined to areas where a supply of freshwater is available. If the feasibility of large scale water storage or sluicing with pumped sea water can be accepted prospects look encouraging, and a more comprehensive prospecting campaign is justified. Several low-lying alluvial areas and infilled river valleys occur near the coast line of Cape Barren Island.

"Granites"

Sporadic sampling of granites of the Furneaux Islands produced a wide variety of rock types many of which have obvious counterparts in NE Tasmania. Several provide suitable sources of mica for age determination purposes. Further mapping of the islands must attempt a delineation of "granite" types to illustrate petrological and age relations and allow correlation and comparison with rocks under investigation on the Tasmanian mainland. In selecting future drilling targets among alluvials, local granite types should be taken into consideration, preferably with tin analyses of contained micas;

Recommendations

The Haflinger should be shipped to Cape Barren Island and made available to a geologist to carry out a systematic inspection of these superficially attractive areas (without reliance on local transport) prior to selection of drilling targets. If staff shortages limit the summer regional mapping programme the Haflinger could probably be made available for this purpose during the summer months.

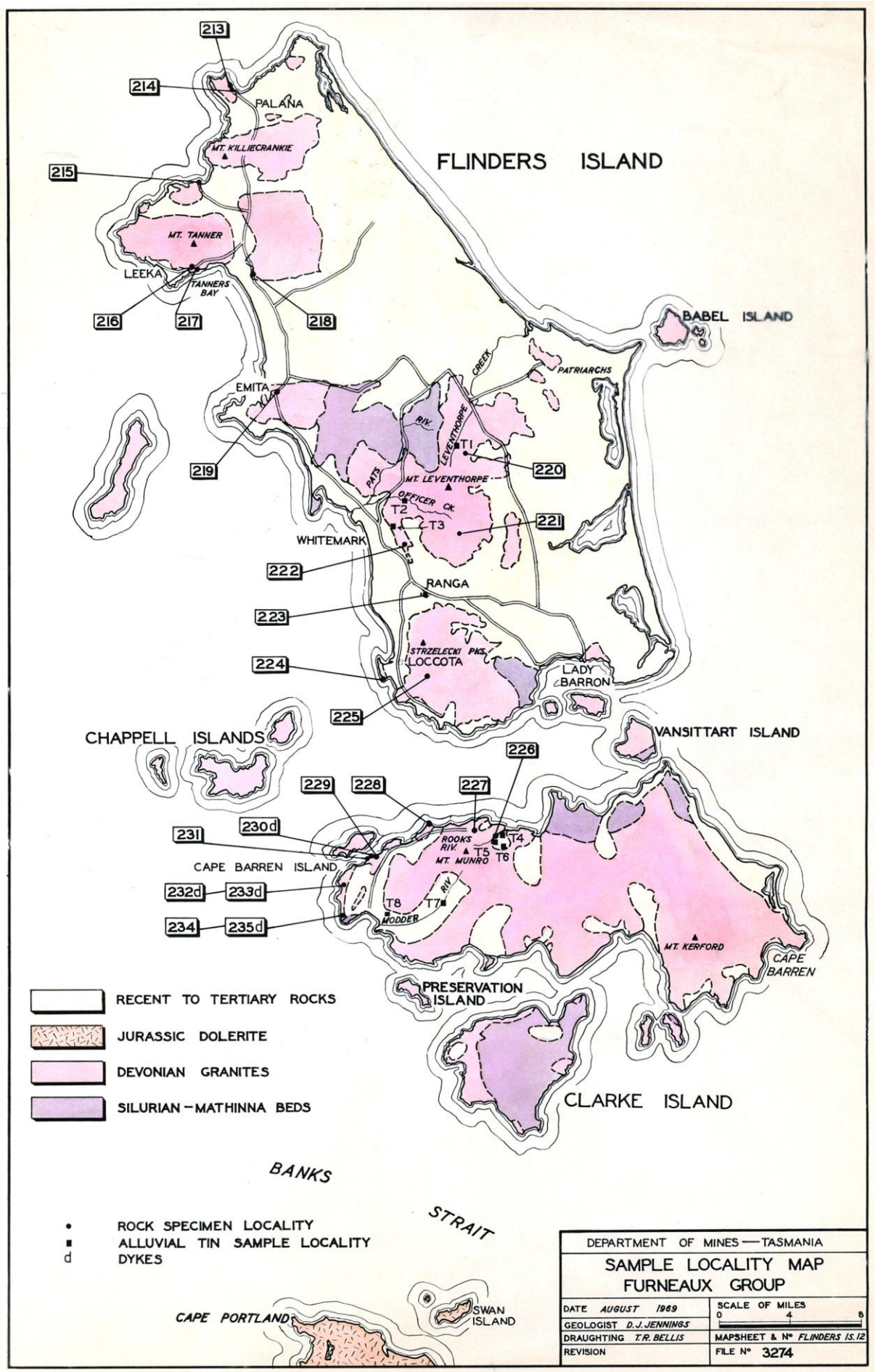
Lease and Licensing Policy

Recently Cape Barren Island has been neglected. There has been no prospecting nor has the consulting geologist visited the island. The situation on the island justifies geological investigation and might benefit from dissociation from Flinders Island where, perhaps, it is too easy for money spent on development to feed back directly into the businesses of the local members of the licensing syndicate.

[1 September 1969]

ROCK SPECIMENS — FURNEAUX ISLANDS

69-213	Palana	(N Fl Id)	Shore
69-214	Palana	(N Fl Id)	Outcrop at shacks
69-215	S. Killiecrankie Bay	(N Fl Id)	Shore
69-216	South of Mt Tanner	(NW Fl Id)	Roadside
69-217	South of Mt Tanner	(NW Fl Id)	Shore
69-218	N. Marshall Bay	(NW Fl Id)	Road Cut
69-219	Emita	(Central W. Fl Id)	Field
69-220	Mt Leventhorpe	(Central Fl Id)	Tor on E. Ridge
69-221	Pillingers Peak	(Central Fl Id)	Tor
69-222	Signal Peak	(Central Fl Id)	Tor
69-223	Reids Peak	(S Fl Id)	Tor
69-224	Trousers Point	(S F1 Id)	Shore
69-225	Lovetts Ridge	(SW F1 Id)	Ridge
69-226	Rooks River	(N CB Id)	River bank
69-227	Tor W of Rooks Rd.	(N CB Id)	Roadside
69-228	Neds Point	(N CB Id)	Shore
69-229	CB Id jetty	(NW CB Id)	Shore
69-230	W CB Id jetty	(NW CB Id)	Shore (dyke)
69-231	W CB Id jetty	(NW CB Id)	Shore
69-232	W CB Id	(W CB Id)	Shore (dyke)
69-233	W CB Id	(W CB Id)	Shore (dyke)
69-234	Cape Sir John	(W CB Id)	Shore
69-235	Cape Sir John	(W CB Id)	Shore (dyke)


213
214
PALANA
MT. KILLIECRANKIE
FLINDERS ISLAND
215
MT. TANNER
LEEKA
TANNERS BAY
216
217
218
BABEL ISLAND
PATRIARCHS
CREEK
EMITA
RIV.
LEVENTHORPE
T1
219
220
PATS
MT. LEVENTHORPE
OFFICER CK.
T2
T3
221
WHITEMARK
222
RANGA
223
STRZELECKI PKS.
LOCCOTA
224
LADY BARRON
225
CHAPPELL ISLANDS
VANSITTART ISLAND
226
229
228
227
230d
231
ROOKS RIV.
T4
T5
T6
MT. MUNRO
CAPE BARREN ISLAND
232d
233d
RIV.
T8
T7
MODDER
234
235d
MT. KERFORD
CAPE BARREN
PRESERVATION ISLAND
RECENT TO TERTIARY ROCKS
JURASSIC DOLERITE
DEVONIAN GRANITES
SILURIAN – MATHINNA BEDS
CLARKE ISLAND
BANKS
STRAIT
ROCK SPECIMEN LOCALITY
ALLUVIAL TIN SAMPLE LOCALITY
d DYKES
CAPE PORTLAND
SWAN ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF MINES — TASMANIA
SAMPLE LOCALITY MAP
FURNEAUX GROUP
DATE AUGUST 1969
GEOLOGIST D.J. JENNINGS
DRAUGHTING T.R. BELLIS
REVISION
SCALE OF MILES
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MAPSHEET & Nº FLINDERS IS. 12
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